

Jessie White

From: Jim Scholl [jim_scholl@dot.state.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 8:39 AM
To: 'Jessie White'
Subject: FW: STIP comments

Please log this in as a comment. Thanks!

From: Karla Hart [mailto:khart@gci.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 9:04 PM
To: DOT_STIP@dot.state.ak.us
Cc: lois@aktransportation.org
Subject: STIP comments

I am a lifelong Juneau resident and a supporter of the Alaska Transportation Priorities Project. Because I have chosen not to review the entire STIP (timing is such that the Tongass plan revision and Juneau Comprehensive Plan also occupy my time), I extend my general support to Alaska Transportation Priorities Project comments.

I am strongly opposed to the extension of Glacier Highway into Berner's Bay or beyond.. If the Juneau road extension remains in the STIP, it must have accurate costs reflected and weighed against the ferry.

I support adequate funding and solid operations of the Alaska Marine Highway ferries from Auke Bay ferry terminal to serve the upper Lynn Canal and throughout the region. I prefer to have ferry options that let me travel without a car from port to port or the port beyond. Getting on and off of ferries and shuttling on roads between to go from Juneau to Ketchikan or Wrangell does not serve my transportation needs. Having a ferry system that is responsive to community needs and events (such as festivals, fairs, other major events that draw many Alaskans to a particular community such as the Klondike Road Run and the bike relay out of Haines.

I support funding for trails for non-motorized use and inter-modal transportation options (e.g., bike to a bus with bike racks).

As I travel around Alaska (and my neighborhood) I see roads in dire need of repair. Fixing existing roads, culverts, bridges, sidewalks and bikepaths, and developing good public transportation should be a priority over construction of new roads and bridges (including the Gravina Crossing which would be a ridiculous expenditure of public funds – the ferry works and people need to be willing to slow down a bit if they choose to live in Alaska). Creating walkable communities and options that are maintained to allow people options to cars would be excellent. To that end, I also oppose the Knik Crossing – it would simply encourage more sprawl and auto-dependent development. Build a light rail from Anchorage to Mat-Su if something must be done.

Regards,

Karla Hart
4950 Wren Drive
Juneau AK 99801